

c) REMARKS

The claims are 1 and 3-30 with claims 1, 14 and 25 being independent. The subject matter of claim 2 has been added to claim 1. Non-elected claims 31-40 have been cancelled without prejudice to the filing of a division thereto or disclaimer. Claims 5-9, 11-13 and 22 were amended to overcome minor informalities unrelated to patentability. Reconsideration of the claims is expressly requested.

It is acknowledged that claims 25-30 have been allowed and that claims 1-24 would be deemed allowable once the Rule 112, second paragraph objection was met.

Non-elected claims 31-40 have been cancelled. The objection to claims 1-24 under Rule 112, second paragraph, has been met by adopting the Examiner's suggestion to incorporate the subject matter of claim 2 into claim 1.

The objection to claim 22 has been met by changing "apparatus" to read --method--.

There being no further objections, it is respectfully requested that the claims be allowed and that the case be passed to issue.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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